

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
May 18, 2009

Attending:

Mayor Matthew Arnett	Councilor Janet Hughes
Councilor Thomas Brann	Councilor Andre Cushing
Councilor Shannon Cox	Sue Lessard, Town Manager
Councilor Jean Lawlis	
Councilor William Shakespeare	

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Mayor Arnett.

Motion by William Shakespeare, seconded by Shannon Cox to accept the financial reports presented at the meeting. Vote 6-0. The Mayor requested that Financial Report Acceptance be made a part of every Finance Committee Agenda.

Tax Rebate Program

Motion by William Shakespeare, seconded by Andre Cushing to postpone indefinitely, until final budget and commitment numbers are known, the proposed long-term resident rebate program. Vote 6-0

Policy for Outside Agencies

The Committee reviewed a draft policy for accepting requests from Outside Agencies and groups for funding both during the annual budget process and during the fiscal year. Committee members made suggested changes and the Town Manager was directed to bring back an updated draft at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Town Attorney Use

Councilor Shakespeare questioned the Town Manager concerning the attendance of the Town Attorney at Council meetings. The Town Manager reported that she had discussed this with the Town Attorney and he indicated that his attendance gave him both the ability to respond to issues as they occur, but also to have a solid background in the Council's decision in advance of any potential legal issue. Councilor Brann discussed the value of having the attorney attend meetings so that things can be corrected if necessary at the time of occurrence.

Hamlin Marine Project

Councilor Cushing gave an update on the proposal discussed by the Planning and Development Committee related to the 'land swap' between Hamlin and the Town. Motion by Councilor Lawlis, seconded by Councilor Cox to recommend to

the full council funding of the appropriate appraisals and survey costs to move forward with this proposal. Vote 6-0.

Fees Ordinance Change Request – Town Clerk

The Committee discussed the need for fee changes for Victualer and Liquor licenses due to the increased cost of advertising. After much discussion, the Committee came up with a tiered fee scale. Motion by Andre Cushing, seconded by Jean Lawlis to recommend to the full Council that the Town charge \$125 for victualer's and liquor licenses that require a public hearing and \$50 for victualer's and liquor licenses which do not require a public hearing. Vote 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sue Lessard
Town Manager